EDU2011 Pilot Program Application
RE: WC Docket No. 10-222
Mobile County Public Schools
P O Box 180069
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Mobile, Alabama 36618

Section #1 – Required Information for all applicants:

(1) Mobile County Public Schools is a K-12 public school district in Mobile, Alabama currently participating in a pilot program (Project 1to1) that provides laptop computers to students at Belsaw – Mt. Vernon School (K-8), Lott (6-8), and Citronelle High School (9-12). Project 1to1 is specifically designed to use 21st Century technologies to improve middle and high school student achievement, increase graduation rates, decrease dropout rates, and improve AYP status. Grant funds will provide equipment and staff development to the selected middle and high school teachers.

   a. The wireless access project for Mobile County will utilize 802.11a/g wireless mesh technology to provide ubiquitous wireless coverage within approximately two square miles of each school or community center location. The project will leverage the school's existing fiber-based Wide Area Network infrastructure for backhaul between areas of coverage. The existing infrastructure that filters and routes internet access will continue to be used in this project to provide protected and completely interactive internet access.

   Project 1to1 targets Belsaw - Mt. Vernon's 8th grade , Lott's 8th grade, and Citronelle High School's 9th grade as data indicates that, throughout the district, students in grades 9 thru 12 failed to meet AYP in reading. Compared to the state dropout rate of 9.76%, some of our high schools exceed the state dropout rate by as much as 10%.

   The purpose of the pilot program is to essentially extend the school day for students, allowing them to access online resources from off-campus locations. Project 1to1 originated with the idea that student achievement would be positively impacted by providing one laptop to every student. This program offers some of the most engaging and individualized instruction of any virtual school solution available today. It combines best-practice pedagogy with next-generation technology that enables the school to customize content and settings while providing an opportunity for students to learn at their own pace and make meaningful academic gains.

   Information technology is playing an increasingly important role in the work and personal lives of citizens. Computers, communications, digital information, software--the constituents of the information age--are

everywhere. In order for students to compete in the global society in which they live, it is imperative that technologies become infused in all classrooms; and, access to emerging technologies be available to all students in school as well as after school hours. Technology support services will be provided to teachers, administrators and support staff.

Mobile County Public Schools benefited from the 2009 EETT Competitive Grant to improve student achievement, increase graduation rates, decrease dropout rates, and achieve AYP status through the implementation of a 21st Century technology program. Documentation of all activities and expenditures to date has been maintained and expended: (1) SmartMath training and equipment for selected General Ed and Special Ed participants from targeted schools, initial and follow-up training to integrate 21st Century technology and skills into mathematics teaching and learning. This is a continuation of an initiation funded through 2008 EETT funds and so included follow-up training for returning participants (18 regular ed/2 special ed), along with initial and follow-up training for new participants (16 regular ed/special ed). Based on feedback from and observation of previous participants, the equipment package for new SmartMath teachers was reduced and included: laptop computers, interactive whiteboard/projector units (purchased with EETT Formula Grant funds), and document cameras. Stipends were paid for 6 hours of PD per returning teacher and 24 hours per new teacher and to 3 presenters for 35 hours. Use of Funds (UF) A, B, C, F (2) Teach21 training and equipment for selected participants by grade level or content area from targeted schools to integrate 21st Century technology and skills into teaching and learning. The equipment package included: laptop computers, interactive whiteboard/projector units and document cameras. 71 teachers were paid 24 stipend hours each. 6 presenters were paid 56 hours each. (UF) A, B, C, F (3) Purchase Service from Innovative Communications to introduce and model Universal Design for Learning strategies to SmartMath teachers and to collaborate with TRTs on data collection. (UF) (4) Get Smart training to integrate 21st Century technology and skills into teaching and learning. 285 teachers were paid 6 stipend hours each. 12 presenters were paid 63 stipend hours each. (UF) A, B, C, F (5) Purchased ISTE webinar series to facilitate the teaching of digital literacy in the 21st Century. (UF) C (6) Conference travel was provided for 1 TRT to attend NECC. AETC travel funds were reallocated. (UF) E

All students in 8th grade at Belsaw-Mt. Vernon School and Lott Middle School and the 9th grade at Citronelle High School received netbooks and sleeves, funded through ARRA Competitive Grant, which has allowed increased access to newer technologies for students in a rural part of our very large school district. Citronelle is 33 miles from our central office and its feeder schools are just as remote. In an effort to make on-line resources and school assignments available to students after the school day, we hope to incorporate off-site connectivity to our existing 1:1 computing program. Due to the economic limitations as well as the geographical challenges Mobile County students face, home connectivity is not an option for many families. Using the existing technology that is currently in

place at Blesaw – Mt. Vernon School and Citronelle High School, the EDU2011 Pilot Program could provide an effective way to fund off-site wireless connectivity which would enable students to take full advantage of the technology tools already in place.

b. The wireless program for access off-campus is currently in the planning stage. There has not been any implementation at this point. The students will use a combination of wireless-enabled laptops and mobile WiFi devices such as iPods and iPads to access school-provided learning resources such as digital lockers, teacher assignments, collaborative tools, archived video and many others. Students will receive their laptops in January 2011.

c. Because this is a pilot project, complete coverage for all students is not economically feasible due to the widespread locations where students reside across the county. The proposed wireless network will provide off campus access to approximately 25% of the students attending Belsaw-Mt. Vernon School, Lott Middle School, and Citronelle High School. Many of the students attending these schools live in rural areas that are not within coverage area without using longer range solutions. One solution to the distance problem will likely involve a hybrid system that utilizes a combination of the newly approved 802.16e Wimax 2 standard for long range backhaul where fiber does not exist and traditional 802.11 WiFi for client access.

d. Training on setting up the wireless client and login procedures will be provided to all students, parents and faculty. Telephone support will be provided to assist users who have difficulty accessing the wireless network.

e. Because Mobile County is a very rural county in the state of Alabama, broadband providers do not serve a significant number of communities in this area. According to a 2009 National Telecommunications Information Agency (NTIA) study, only 48% percent of Alabama households subscribe to broadband service at home. This fact places Alabama next to last in state rankings. This information was provided by the Connecting Alabama website (www.connectingalabama.gov). ConnectingALABAMA is a multi-year initiative promoting the availability and adoption of broadband internet access throughout the state of Alabama. The goals of this state initiative seem to align with those of the EDU2011 Pilot Project.

Using the existing technology that is currently in place at the selected Mobile County schools, the EDU2011 Pilot Program could provide an effective way to fund off-site wireless connectivity which would enable students to take full advantage of the technology tools already in place while also enriching their educational experience in Mobile County.

See attached Broadband Development Map that shows underserved areas in Mobile.

(2)

Belsaw - Mt. Vernon School	OK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	32	29	25	22	36	26	20	22	34
Black Female	13	14	11	10	15	12	6	13	15
Black Male	18	13	13	11	17	12	11	7	17
Hispanic Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hispanic Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Indian Female	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Indian Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not Reported Female	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
White Female	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	0

Blesaw – Mount Vernon School (K-8) has a current enrollment of two hundred forty-six (246) students. Of the two hundred forty-six (246) students, 204 students (82.927%) are on free or reduced lunches.

Lott Middle School	6	7	8
	139	175	183
Asian Female	0	0	1
Black Female	17	10	16
Black Male	10	22	13
Hispanic Male	1	0	1
Indian Female	5	24	14
Indian Male	0	14	23
White Female	49	51	49
White Male	57	54	66

Lott Middle School (6-8) has a current enrollment of four hundred ninety-seven (497) students. Of the four hundred ninety-seven (497) students, 384 students (77.26%) are on free or reduced lunches.

Citronelle High School	9	10	11	12
	257	198	172	175
Asian Female	0	0	1	0
Asian Male	0	1	1	0
Black Female	22	17	21	23
Black Male	38	22	21	29
Hispanic Female	2	1	1	0
Hispanic Male	3	0	0	0
Indian Female	19	22	12	9
Indian Male	24	22	12	15

Citronelle High School (9-12) has a current enrollment of eight hundred and two (802) students. Of the eight hundred and two (802) students, 536 students (66.833%) are on free or reduced lunches.

(3) The Mobile County Public School system is the largest school system in the state of Alabama and has over 1,000 school age children residing in the targeted service areas for Broadband service. The dropout rate in the targeted service area for broadband coverage is 48 percent which is well below the State average of 30 percent, according to the Mobile area Education Foundation. With the majority of today's research taking place on the Internet, access to computers and online study tools are imperative for a child to be successful in the classroom. Test scores in the targeted service area are among the lowest in the school system which can be attributed to not being able to take full advantage of online tutoring and assessment tools that are offered by the school system. The three schools, Belsaw-Mt. Vernon, Lott Middle School, and Citronelle High School are all Title I schools. They are all in need of financial support. Due to the dramatic reductions in state allocations, schools received no state funds for library enhancement, technology, or teacher allocation for the last two years. When possible, PTA and PTO has been a source to support to the classroom teacher but not libraries or technology. Grant funds have made up the loss.

 (4) See Attached Budget Sheet

(5) Mobile County Public Schools will use the resources Associated with their Project 1to 1 EETT Grant to ensure the success of this project. To encourage parental support for activities using 21st Century Skills, the Department of Instructional Technology and the Information Technology Services Division, in coordination with the Department of Home-Community Involvement and Parent Organizers, will work with parents in using the district website to remain informed about the Formula and Competitive grants, their children's classrooms, school and district-wide events such as Parent University and Statewide Parenting Day, and to communicate with local school and central office staff. During Statewide Parenting Day, participating schools will share information about the importance of using 21st Century skills in increasing student achievement and reducing dropout rates and demonstrate use of technology equipment received from the Competitive Grant. Internet-based tools and applications are utilized daily to communicate with families of students. The school system website provides information about successful programs, system guidelines and procedures, information to parents new to the community, school achievement reports, curricular courses offered at each school, school calendars, and system financial reports. Individual schools provide information important to their students' families on this site, including a link to STI Home, which allows parents 24/7 access to their student's grades and attendance. In addition, parents are represented on committees that update and retool the district's technology course of study and technology plan. Technology Resource Teachers (TRTs) and District Web Specialist will teach each Parent Organizer how to access, navigate and use the information located on the district website.

(6) Off-premise connectivity would essentially extend the school day for students, allowing them to access on-line resources from home. Research has shown that today's students are learning differently than students in past generations. 21st Century students need more to engage their senses, stimulate their creativity, and gauge their own

learning. Off-site connectivity would afford students the opportunity to access many of the same resources they are able to use while at school.

 Parents of students from the selected schools would also benefit from this program as well. On-line resources for both parents and students are already provided on the school website which could be utilized more if off-site connectivity were available. Due to the economic and geographical challenges some Mobile County residents face, wireless access from home would give parents an opportunity to stay informed and up-to-date with school events and news while also allowing students to engage in online learning centers and access electronic classroom resources that would be beneficial to the academic success of Mobile County students.

(7) This solution is more cost effective because there are no Monthly recurring costs for Internet Access for Students or the School District. The only option for Broadband coverage in rural areas such as Lott, Belsaw and Citronelle is the Schools System.

(8) See Attached School Technology Plan and EETT grant application.

(9) The existing infrastructure that filters and routes internet access for the school system will also be used in this project to provide CIPA compliant internet access. The filtering system will be monitored to detect and prevent any inappropriate use. Access to the wireless network will be controlled using guest access servers. This will require authentication against the school's account database before granting access to the wireless network. This will prevent use of the network by those not associated with the school system.

(10) Evaluation of the effectiveness of Project 1to1 will be tied to individual school measures of achievement, including SAT10, ARMT, Criterion Reference Tests, Annual Yearly Progress, attendance measures, and graduation rate. In addition, classroom observation data will be taken on technology use and Universal Design for Learning strategies employed, including increasing time on task, reducing classroom interruptions, and increasing opportunities to respond. Data collection will be ongoing and taken by local school administration and TRTs. Project 1to1 participants will set personal accountability goals for themselves and their students, the revisiting of which will be a part of their on-going professional development. Further, local institution School Action for Excellence (SAE) plans include strategies for curricular, inclusion, human resource, and parental involvement using technologies that are addressed in the local Technology Plan where they are linked to IMPACT objectives. The SAE Plan is monitored quarterly by Federal Programs, Curriculum and Instruction, Instructional Technology, Staff Development, Human Resources, and local school administration and teachers. Descriptions of and participation in staff development activities will be documented through STIPD. Should future funding of these projects become unavailable, the equipment that will have been put in place, along with the ongoing collaboration among the participants and an increased reliance on distance learning in professional development, will allow Project 1to1 to prove effective in integrating

technology into curricula and instruction, increasing the ability of teachers to teach, and enabling students to meet challenging state academic content and student academic achievement standards.

Section #2 - *Required Information (schools only)*

(1) Belsaw – Mt. Vernon School 1650 Gertman Circle Mt. Vernon, AL 46560
Lott Middle School 17740 Celeste Rd. Citronelle, AL 36522
Citronelle High School 19325 Rowe Street Citronelle, AL 36522

(2) Mobile County Public Schools (FCC Entity#128168) is filing this application on behalf of Belsaw-Mt. Vernon School (FCC Entity#40407) Lott Middle School (FCC Entity #(40363)) and Citronelle High School(FCC Entity#(40362)).

(3) Mobile County Public Schools serves 1,600 square miles in southwestern Alabama and a population of more than 400,000. Its 97 schools have combined enrollments of more than 63,000. The district has 8,500 employees.   MCPSS currently serves all areas of Mobile County- including the city of Mobile, except for the City of Saraland which voted to separate from Mobile County in June 2006. MCPSS serves urban, suburban, and rural areas. It is the largest school system in Alabama and the 56th largest school system in the United States.

(4) **Goal 1:** All Mobile County Public School System students, teachers, and administrators will effectively use technology as an integrated tool for teaching and learning to master local, state, and national standards. Students meet the Technology Literacy Content Standards found in Alabama's Technology Course of Study. Teachers meet local, state, and national technology standards.
Goal 2: All Mobile County Public School System students, teachers and administrators will benefit from a broad range of educational opportunities and resources through the use of technology. Educators will foster and nurture an environment that supports innovative uses of technology.
Goal 3: All Mobile County Public School System educators benefit from high quality research-based professional development and supports necessary to achieve local, state, and national standards and courses of study. Fiscal and classroom support exist to enable all educators the opportunity to maximize their participation in professional development, both in the district and off site. All decisions related to technology professional development are facilitated and informed by a variety of evaluation data made available to administrators by participants in professional development offerings. All teachers and administrators demonstrate evidence of implementation of newly acquired technology strategies in the school and classroom setting.
Goal 4: All Mobile County Public School System students, teachers, and administrators will have access to the appropriate technology resources and infrastructure necessary to support teaching and learning. Schools will have a sufficient number of Internet enabled computers and the infrastructure necessary to support learning, communication, and administrative goals of the district.

(5) a summary of any data collected by the school on Program outcomes and achievement of Program objectives.

Applicants must also apply for E-rate funding by following the regular E-rate program rules. Specifically, in addition to the information requested above, eligible schools and libraries must submit an FCC Form 471 application to USAC during the regular application window. We direct applicants to file an FCC Form 471 application specifically for the wireless connectivity services to be used off-premises as part of the program for which the applicant is seeking funding and file a separate FCC Form 471 for any services to be used on premises. Applicants should type "EDU2011" in the form identifier field of the FCC Form 471 application for the wireless connectivity services to be used off-premises. Applicants should also list all of the schools and/or libraries that will be receiving the off-site wireless connectivity services in Block 4 of the FCC Form 471 application. Because potential applicants will most likely already be using portable wireless devices in their school or library, applicants may have an established relationship with a service provider. Therefore, the Commission has waived, to the extent necessary, the applicable sections of the Commission's E-rate competitive bidding rules for those EDU2011 pilot program applicants that have already entered into legally binding agreements with service providers for off-premises connectivity for portable wireless devices. The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) will notify applicants and USAC when it has selected applicants to participate in the EDU2011 program. Selected applicants will receive the allotted connectivity support and will not be required to cost-allocate the dollar amount of support for the time that portable devices are not on school or library premises. Applicants will receive funds sufficient to cover the amount of connectivity expenses eligible for E-rate funding based on their discount; they will still be required to pay their non-discount share. After the one-year trial period, participants will be required to submit a report to the Bureau describing in detail any data collected as a result of the program and a narrative describing lessons learned from the program, which may assist other schools and libraries desiring to adopt similar programs in the future.

EDU2011 Application Filing Procedures:

Eligible schools and libraries may submit their applications either (1) by using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or (2) by filing paper copies. **All applications submitted as part of the EDU2011 pilot program must refer to WC Docket No. 10-222.**

▢▢Electronic Filers: Applications may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/.

▢▢Paper Filers: Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

▢▢All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building.

▢▢Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

□□U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.

Eligible schools and libraries may also send a courtesy copy of their filing via email to EDU2011pilot@fcc.gov or by mail to Regina Brown, Telecommunications Access Policy Division,